BENGALURU, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2024 www.Bangaloremirror.com 12 Pages PRICE ₹3

Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 26 | Min 21 | Humidity 68% Cloudy Sensex 80,684 | Nifty 24,336 | Gold 76,704 | Silver 90,353 | Dollar 84.91 | Euro 89.12 | GBP 107.81

THEY HAVE NO GO

Pourakarmikas of Pulakeshinagar have no usable toilets; Indira Canteen locks up its loo and PU college denies them entry

PAGE 4

WORK IN PROGRESS

Process of acquiring private land for construction of multi-modal transport hub at Hebbal Metro station is still going on

PAGE 6

15,174 cases of footpath riding this year in marked jump from cases recorded last year, showing complete disregard to pedestrian's right of way even on paths meant to be for them

WALK ON THE WILD RIDE SIDE

Indian Road Congress norms not followed in design

Sanjana CS
c-sanjana.s@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

In Bengaluru, there is absolutely no space for pedestrians. While in most areas footpaths are encroached or broken, in stretches where footpaths are fine, speeding bikers zip by.

Police data has revealed that 15,174 riding on footpath cases were reported this year, which is a significant jump from the 9,547 recorded in the previous year. Penalties collected for these offences amount to Rs. 39,94,600.

Traffic congestion on the roads has caused our footpaths to become an extension of the roads as riders in their haste to beat traffic jams use them as alternative routes. While the exact reasons behind this peculiar trend remain unclear, experts speculate that a combination of factors may be contributing to the surge. These include a lack of adequate parking spaces, impatience among motorists, and a general disregard for traffic rules.

Professor MN Sreehari, a traffic

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

"In India, there's a tendency to disregard rules, some even find a sense of pride in breaking them. For instance, some feel like a hero for crossing multiple signals on red or escaping after hitting someone

— Prof MN Sreehari, traffic & infra expert

If you missed the bus...

You may have to end up waiting 45 mins or so, reveals student group study; 79% of those interviewed rate BMTC services as average or below

Rachana Ramesh
c-rachana.ramesh
@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A campaign by Collective, a student group, has found that out of 250 students interviewed, 79% rated their overall satisfaction with Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) bus services as average or below average, 88% found the number of seats at bus stops inadequate, 66% complained about overcrowding in the bus and 75% of people felt a lack of safe footpaths or road crossings nearby bus stops.

The 'Namma Oorige Uttama Sarige' campaign covered five colleges. While students from Christ University complained about overcrowded buses being an everyday hassle that also risks safety, students from Jain University and St Joseph's University who reside in SG Palya reported sporadic availability of buses, especially in the evening, to be a major concern. As universities have introduced multiple shifts of class batches, students from the same universities face an unequal experience of commuting based on their timings, Collective has found.

"KBS3a, KBS3c and KBS3f are three buses that connect several colleges in the city. There was much celebration when the BMTC launched them but students report serious overcrowding and infrequency of these buses. One major problem is that all the buses, running the same route, come at the same time rather than being evenly spread apart.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

THINGS TO DO

01 Artistic journey

Art exhibition- 'Namma Mestru: The Artistic Voyage of JMS Mani' (1948-2021) curated by Darshan Kumar YU and Amrutha R, Dy Curator, NGMA Bengaluru. **Where: National Gallery of Modern Art, Palace Road; When: Until January 1, 2025, 10 am to 6 pm**

02 Into theatre music

Raga-Ranga: a lecture demonstration on theatre music by theatre artist Nudi Sudarshana. This demonstration will feature songs from 'Mitravinda Govinda', the first Kannada play and include songs from mythology, contemporary plays that address social issues and folklore-based experiments highlighting the historical background, diverse forms of theatre music and their significance. **Where: Indian Institute of World Culture, Basavanagudi; When: December 19, 6 pm to 7:30 pm**

03 Paint it with love

Paint with Puppies by Pawasana- Christmas Special. Indulge in unlimited snuggles, laughter, and pure joy as you create your masterpiece alongside your furry friends. **Where: Oyster, Bar & Kitchen, HSR Layout When: December 21, 11 am**

04 Art workshop

Feelings on Canvas by Junu: An exploratory art workshop designed to help you reconnect with your emotions and express them through art. No prior artistic experience is required. **Where: Atta Galatta, Indiranagar When: December 21, 3 pm**

05 Dark comedy

MANIAC is a darkly absurdist comedy that pushes the boundaries of traditional theatre through non-linear scene transitions and chaotic, unpredictable storytelling. The play is a contemporary reimagining of Dario Fo`s Accidental Death of an Anarchist, but with a fresh, stylized twist. **Where: Vyoma ArtSpace & Studio Theatre, JP Nagar; When: December 20, 7 pm**

Chickenpox claims 59 lives in state in last four years

Experts sound alarm, suggest that public's general complacency, low vaccination rates may be factors contributing to surge in fatalities

Sridhar Vivan
sridhar.vivan
@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @sridharvMirror

With a total of 59 deaths between January 2021 and December 3, 2024, chickenpox (also known as varicella) has claimed the most lives in Karnataka, followed by dengue (31 deaths) and leptospirosis (24 deaths). Human rabies has also been a concern, with 9 deaths reported. Other diseases, such as measles, have caused 2 deaths, while diseases like meningitis, malaria, and others have not led to any fatalities, according to data presented in the Lok Sabha recently.

Moreover, H1N1 (swine flu) had claimed 21 lives in Karnataka between 2021 and 2024. The highest number of deaths occurred in 2022, with 15 deaths, while in 2021 and 2023, there were no reported deaths, and 6 deaths were recorded in 2024 until August. The data reflects the ongoing public health challenges Karnataka faces, with efforts required to combat these diseases effectively.

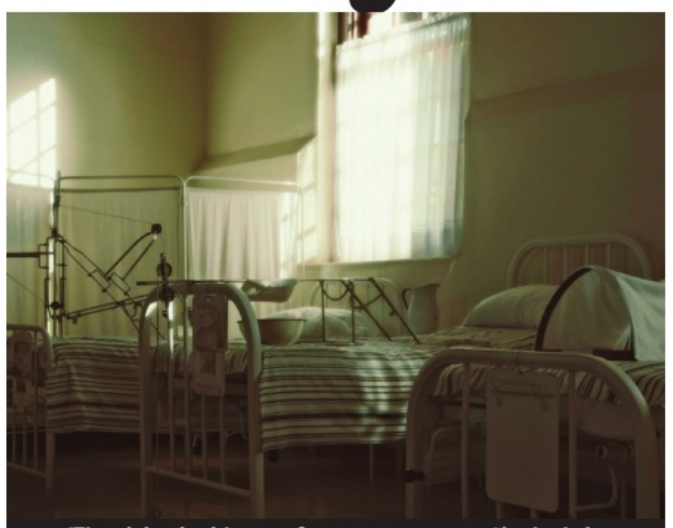
15K dengue cases this year in B'luru

Unlike Covid cases, Bengaluru accounted for approximately 96.34% of dengue cases in Karnataka during the specified period. As per the data shared by Union Minister of State for Health Anupriya Patel in the Lok Sabha, Karnataka reported 15,565 cases of dengue fever in Bengaluru and 16,156 cases in the rest of the districts from January 1 to November 20, 2024.

"The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, along with the Director General of Health Services, the National Center for Vector Borne Diseases Control (NCVBDC), and the Regional Director's office in Bengaluru, is actively monitoring the surge of dengue and other vector-borne diseases in Karnataka and across the country. This monitoring is conducted through regular reviews, state/UT reports, and field visits," she said.

What do health experts say?

Health experts indicate that the severity of chickenpox complications, particularly in adults and immunocompromised individuals, can be underestimated. "Chickenpox, while often considered a mild childhood illness, has unfortunately contributed to a significant number of deaths in Karnataka. The rising incidence of severe cases, particularly in non-vaccinated populations, has contributed to the high mortality rate in Karnataka. Chickenpox complications such as pneumonia, encephalitis, and severe skin infections can lead to fatal outcomes, especially when left untreated," said a health expert.



'The rising incidence of severe cases, particularly in non-vaccinated populations, has contributed to the high mortality rate of chickenpox and other diseases in Karnataka'

Health experts said that the H1N1 virus, while less deadly in recent years, has claimed 21 lives between 2021 and 2024. Experts suggested that the public's general complacency and low vaccination rates may be factors contributing to the deaths. "Inadequate vaccination coverage and delayed recognition of symptoms lead to a higher risk of complications."

In addition to chickenpox, dengue and leptospirosis are emerging as significant public health threats. "Dengue, with its unpredictable course, poses a serious risk, particularly during peak monsoon seasons. The lack of timely intervention and awareness in rural areas can worsen the outcome," said Dr Manisha Desai, a public health expert.

> **"Karnataka recorded 31 deaths due to dengue, 24 from leptospirosis, 21 from H1N1, 9 due to human rabies, & 2 from measles** – Data

According to an epidemiologist, leptospirosis is a neglected tropical disease, but its impact is magnified during monsoons when people are exposed to contaminated water. Awareness and preventive measures are crucial to reducing its mortality rate. "Leptospirosis is often associated with flooding and poor sanitation," the health expert added.

'Sahaja Yoga is a transformative experience'

Sahaja Yoga is a transformative experience, stated Dr Rajiv Kumar, former vice chairman of NITI Aayog. Speaking at the Sahaja Dhara workshop held in the city on Sunday, he said, "Sahaj" has two meanings: simplicity and "Saha-aj," which translates to "born together." There is a subtle system inherently present within all of us. It is our right to understand this system and harness its benefits, connecting our inner energy with the divine energy. This connection—this unity—is what we call "Yog." As Krishna said, achieving yoga brings limitless capacity within us. "Having practiced Sahaj Yoga for 35 years and having had the honour of being blessed with Mataji, I can confidently assure you that it enables you to harmonise with nature, connect with others,

and find success in life. Practicing Sahaja Yoga will bring a profound change to your life."

Dr Manoj Kumar, chairman of Life Eternal Trust Bengaluru said, Sahaja Yoga is open to collaborate with educational institutions and corporate to provide free stress management workshops.

Sahaja Yoga organised a free workshop on Sunday at the Bharat Scouts Auditorium in Bengaluru. Hundreds of meditation enthusiasts got insights into Kundalini awakening and the path to self-realisation during the event. The chief guests of the program were actress Radhikaa Narayan, singer Manasa Holla and Dr Kumar. The event featured a harmonious blend of music and meditation, with renowned artists like composer Pt Dhananjay Dumal, sitarist Dr Jayant Kumar Das, dancer Preeti Sondur, flutist Shaktidhar, guitarist Vikas Jaiswal, Rajendra Singh Pawar on harmonium and others enhancing the experience. Established by Shri Mataji Nirmala Devi in 1970, Sahaja Yoga offers a straightforward and efficient way to discover balance and free oneself from anxieties. **— BMB**

Initiative sowing seeds of self reliance

By combining therapy and skill-building, the Association of People with Disability's (APD) three-month horticulture training program is transforming the lives of persons with disabilities (PWDs).

The training course includes participants with locomotor, intellectual and learning disabilities; speech and hearing and visual impairments; and mental health challenges. It teaches them sustainable farming, landscaping, floriculture, and other agriculture-related skills, enabling them to prepare for employment.

"Horticulture training has helped me develop life skills, build confidence, and earn a living. As someone with severe disabilities, it has made a big difference in my life. I am more independent now," said Raghavendra, a former trainee who has a locomotor disability and uses a wheelchair. He

joined the course in 2008. After completing the training, Raghavendra began working as a horticulture trainer at APD.

APD is hosting its annual Garden Fair and Orchid Mela, open to the public until December 22 at its Horticulture Training Centre in Jeevanbhima Nagar, Bengaluru. The event will feature over 400 species of plants, various stalls and workshops on kitchen, herb and terrace gardening. The proceeds will support APD's training programs. **— Iffath Fathima**

Police to contest Darshan's bail in SC

Bengaluru's Police Commissioner B Dayananda announced on Tuesday their intention to challenge the bail granted to Kannada actor Darshan Thoogudeepa and other accused in the Renukaswamy murder case in the Supreme Court.

The commissioner indicated that a proposal would be presented to the state government regarding this matter. Last Friday, the Karnataka High Court granted conditional bail to Darshan, the second accused in the case. Justice S Vishwajith Shetty's bench also extended bail to the first accused Pavithra Gowda and other defendants including R Nagaraju, Anu Kumar alias Anu, Lakshman M, Jagadeesh alias Jagga and Pradoosh S Rao.

Dayananda confirmed to reporters that preparations were underway to contest the bail decision in the Supreme Court.

Darshan's arrest occurred on June 11, alongside Pavithra Gowda and 15 other co-accused. The 47-year-old actor, who had been imprisoned for over four months, received interim bail on October 30 for spine surgery.

Pavithra Gowda has now been released from Parappana Agrahara Central Prison after completing bail requirements.

Police investigations revealed that Renukaswamy, 33, a fan of Darshan, had sent inappropriate messages to Pavithra Gowda, angering the actor. This allegedly led to Renukaswamy's murder, with his body discovered near a Sumanahalli stormwater drain on June 9. Raghavendra, another accused from Darshan's fan club in Chitradurga, allegedly lured Renukaswamy to an R R Nagar shed under the pretence of meeting the actor, where the victim was reportedly tortured and killed.

The post-mortem examination concluded that Renukaswamy, originally from Chitradurga, succumbed to shock and haemorrhage from multiple blunt force injuries. Investigators have identified Pavithra as the primary instigator, stating evidence shows she encouraged other accused persons in the crime's execution.

Woman arrested for stealing gold

A woman was arrested for stealing gold, silver, and cash after diverting the attention of fellow passengers. The accused, a resident of Sonnenahalli, was apprehended on 13 December, following a complaint lodged at the Electronic City Police Station. The arrest led to the seizure of 153 grams of gold jewellery, 21 grams of silver items and Rs 50,000 in cash. T.

The complainant, who had travelled to his hometown Krishnagiri, reported that while returning to Bengaluru by bus on Saturday, two unknown women boarded the bus at the Narayana Hospital bus stop in Hebbagodi and sat near him. The women distracted him and stole a purse containing gold jewellery and cash.

During the investigation, police arrested one of the women near the Electronic City Bus Stand. In her possession, they found 153 grams of gold jewellery, 21 grams of silver items, and 50,000 in cash, collectively valued at 11.55 lakh. Upon interrogation, the accused confessed her involvement and revealed that she was part of a group with two other women who had been carrying out similar thefts across different parts of the city, targeting unsuspecting passengers. —BMB

ಎಕ್ಸಲಂಟ್ ಕೋಚಿಂಗ್ ಕ್ಲಾಸಿಸ್
(ಎಕ್ಸ್‌ಲಂಟ್ ಸ್ಕೂಲ್ ಬ್ರಾಂಚ್)
ಇಟ್ಟಂಗಿಹಾಳ ರಸ್ತೆ, ವಿಜಯಪುರ
9980531051/8147379963/9632412596/6362639310
SUMMER VACATION-2025
Admissions Started for
Classes VI to X
English Medium
Subject: Maths/Science/ Eng. Grammar/ History
Result Review
SSLC: Supriya Joshi - 625 &
99% + - 100 Students
Maths (100%)- 50+ Students Every year
Science (100%) - 20+ Students
Hitech And Well Maintained Separate Hostel Facility For Boys And Girls
Dr. Shivanand Kelur
Founder General Secretary

Answer this question and give the details below to win passes to Shaan's concert at Phoenix Marketcity, Whitefield on December 20.
Shaan voiced the Hindi version of which popular Disney animated movie character "Olaf"?
Name:
Age:
Area:
Profession:
What feature of the city has BM not covered?

Scan this code to follow us on Insta and drop your responses there or whatsapp us at
9591233247
(* Terms and Conditions apply)

RED LIVE CONCERT: Shankar Ehsaan Loy in Bengaluru

Bengaluru is gearing up for a spectacular musical evening as Shankar Ehsaan Loy, the legendary trio behind some of Bollywood's most iconic soundtracks, takes the stage on 21 December 2024. This unmissable event, part of the RED LIVE concert series by Superhits 93.5 RED FM is hosted at New Horizon College of Engineering, Bellandur. The trio, celebrated for their timeless hits from movies such as Dil Chahta Hai, Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara, Rock On, and Kal Ho Na Ho promises to deliver a mesmerising musical journey that fans will cherish forever. With their ability to blend soulful melodies and high-energy performances, Shankar Ehsaan Loy is set to captivate Bengaluru's music lovers in a way like never before.

> **"Shankar Ehsaan Loy played dominant role in Bollywood music for 25 years now, I believe music lovers of city would relish and lap up this great opportunity"**
> — B Surendar, COO, RED FM

> **"RED LIVE is not just a platform; it's a celebration of music that connects artists and audiences most memorably. We invite all music lovers to this incredible concert"**
> — Suresh Ganesan, GM, RED FM

RED LIVE: Redefining live music experiences

This concert is part of RED LIVE, the flagship entertainment platform of RED FM that has become synonymous with premium live music experiences. Known for curating intimate gigs, grand concerts, and unique music festivals, RED LIVE bridges the gap between artists and audiences, creating unforgettable memories.

B Surendar, Director and COO (Chief Operating Officer), of Red FM Network, says, " Red FM as a network and as a brand believes in providing super hits anytime a listener tunes in on air. This music promise from our side is equally relevant to all our on-ground initiatives as well. Getting the biggest names in Bollywood music to perform live in key cities like Bangalore is a part of that key objective. Shankar Ehsaan Loy has played a dominant role in Bollywood Music for nearly 25 years now and I have no doubt that the music-loving people of Bangalore would relish and lap up this great opportunity. "

Suresh Ganesan, General Manager of RED FM, Karnataka, shared his excitement, "At RED FM, we believe in delivering extraordinary experiences, and this concert is our way of creating unforgettable memories for our listeners in Bengaluru. RED LIVE is not just a platform; it's a celebration of music that connects artists and audiences most memorably. Bringing Shankar Ehsaan Loy to Bengaluru under the RED LIVE banner is our way of delivering an unparalleled live music experience. We invite all music lovers to join us for this incredible concert and be part of an unforgettable evening of music."

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Disha Habitat for joining us as the Presenting Sponsor for the RED Live Concert.

Mark your calendars for an unforgettable night filled with music, energy, and joy. Stay tuned to Superhits 93.5 RED FM for more updates on the event and ticketing details.

Date: December 21
Venue: New Horizon College of Engineering, Bellandur

Pourakarmikas walk miles for basic facilities

Pulakeshinagar pourakarmikas face daily struggles due to lack of toilets and restrooms; despite complaints, authorities have not acted, leaving workers to endure long walks for relief

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Pourakarmikas, along with volunteers, social activists, and residential welfare associations, have been working diligently to beautify yellow and black spots in the city. However, around 25 women pourakarmikas of Pulakeshinagar ward have been struggling a lot to attend nature's call while on duty. All these years, the pourakarmikas were forced to utilise toilets at Indira Canteen and nearby BBMP (Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike) PU College. With Indira Canteen staff locking the toilet and BBMP PU College staff refusing entry, they are left with no choice but to rely on open spaces or walk over a kilometre to use the toilet at the BBMP ward office.

Most pourakarmikas choose to endure in silence instead of requesting basic facilities. They do not even have Suvidha Cabins to change uniforms and restrooms. "We have to change our uniforms at home. We do not have a facility on par with pourakarmikas working at other wards. We have complained to our supervisors and health inspectors but nothing has been done to mitigate our woes," said a woman pourakarmika.

Left: (File photo) Pourakarmikas lack facilities to change uniforms; Right: Pourakarmikas in Pulakeshinagar

Appealing to the Bangalore Solid Waste Management Limited (BSWML) authorities to provide basic amenities, a woman pourakarmika said that it has become difficult for them to find a toilet on the road. "We have to go to the ward office to attend nature's call. It takes more than 20 minutes to go to the ward office and another 20 minutes to return to the workplace," she said.

Demanding the Bangalore Solid Waste Management Limited to provide basic amenities for pourakarmikas, Habiba Subhan, a social activist, said the BBMP or BSWML can construct a shelter with a toilet facility on the vacant land near Indira Canteen on Moore Road. "They do not even have drinking water. With no other option, women pourakarmikas are requesting security guards at apartment complexes to allow them to use the toilet," said Habiba Subhan.

When informed, Somasekhar, Junior Health Inspector said that he had convinced the staff at the BBMP PU College and Indira Canteen to allow women pourakarmikas to use the toilets. "I came to know that women pourakarmikas are not allowed to use the toilets at the BBMP PU College and Indira Canteen situated on Moore Road. They do not have Suvidha Cabins in Pulakeshinagar Assembly constituency," said Somasekhar.

Meanwhile, BSWML Assistant Executive Engineer, Umesh said that he would talk with BBMP PU College staff and Indira Canteen staff to allow women pourakarmikas to use the toilets.

"With no other option, women pourakarmikas are requesting security guard at apartments to allow them to use toilet – Habiba Subhan, activist

Winter wear drive provides warmth to over 50 families

Blanket distribution drive continues to expand, aiming to assist more families in need during cold season

Iffath Fathima
iffath.fathima@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

In an initiative, volunteers from The Indian Ploggers Army and Helping Heroes Foundation conducted the first phase of their winter wear and blanket distribution drive in Jayanagar. The effort, aimed at providing much-needed relief to families living in vulnerable conditions during the winter, has already reached over 50 families.

As temperatures begin to dip in the city, those without access to warm clothing often face harsh conditions. To address this, the volunteers launched a special winter drive, collecting blankets, sweaters, and other winter wear from donors across the city. The response, they said, was overwhelming, with enough materials gathered to support more than 100 additional families in need. Speaking about the drive, Younes from Helping Heroes Foundation, who was also part of the distribution, said, "The joy on their faces said more than words ever could. We were blessed to witness pure happiness." Volunteers described the experience as humbling, seeing families express genuine gratitude and relief while receiving these essential items.

The first round of the distribution took place in a Jayanagar slum cluster, where residents eagerly welcomed the support. Volunteers shared how the simple act of giving preloved sweaters or blankets can make a huge difference for families struggling to keep warm. "We have received requests from individuals, resident groups, and even colleges to extend this initiative. We are happy to share that we'll continue distributing supplies across more slum areas in Bengaluru over the coming days," said Raj from Ploggers Army. Winter in Bengaluru may not be as extreme as in northern parts of the country, but for families without proper shelter or clothing, the season can still be difficult. These initiatives provide not just warmth but also hope and support during challenging times.

Blanket and winter wear drives highlight the power of community action and collective kindness. They encourage residents to come forward, donate unused items, and ensure that those less fortunate can face the cold with dignity.

The volunteers emphasised that this drive is not a one-time effort. "Throughout the year, we work to distribute surplus food and pre-loved items to families in need. With winter approaching, we knew we had to do more. The incredible generosity of people across Bengaluru has made this possible. Additionally, such initiatives set a powerful example for others, showing how even small efforts can lead to significant impact," added Raj. So far, over 50 families have directly benefited from the initiative. As the volunteers prepare for the next phase, they continue to rely on the support of the community to make a difference. "We are getting many more blankets/winter wear. Will plan at 3-4 other slums too. CMRIT College is also doing a collection drive along with us and it will be distributed before Christmas. That will be in Kalyan Nagar which is close to the college," added Raj.

Volunteers sharing blankets and sweaters in Jayanagar

whatsapp MIRROR
9591233247
Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Encroachment hazard

Arabic College Main Road

A transformer installed on Arabic College Main Road is causing an electrical hazard due to encroachment. Complaints to authorities remain unaddressed.

Safety risk

Nandini Layout

The Control Kiosk door at BHEL Park, 25th Main Road, Nandini Layout, is left dangerously open.

Lavelle Road

Road woes

The road conditions near Glen's Bakehouse on Lavelle Road are in poor shape, making it challenging for vehicles and pedestrians to navigate the area safely.

Will NEET go online or remain on pen-paper? Decision soon expected

FILE PHOTO

Candidates at a NEET PG exam centre

The Education and Health Ministries are actively discussing whether the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET-UG) should transition to an online format or continue in its traditional pen-and-paper mode. A final decision is anticipated soon, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan announced on Tuesday.

Currently, NEET-UG is conducted offline, where students solve multiple-choice questions on an OMR sheet. In 2024, the exam witnessed a record participation of over 24 lakh candidates, making it the largest entrance exam in India. "We have held two rounds of discussions with the Health Ministry, led by Union Minister JP Nadda, as they are the administrative ministry for NEET.

The National Testing Agency (NTA) is fully prepared to conduct the exam in whichever mode is deemed most suitable," Pradhan told reporters. The decision, expected to be finalised soon, is likely to be implemented for the 2025 edition of NEET.

Push for online mode amidst irregularities

The proposal to shift NEET to a computer-based test (CBT) format is not new but has gained momentum after allegations of paper leaks earlier this year. A high-level panel, chaired by former ISRO Chief R Radhakrishnan, was constituted by the Centre in July to ensure the fair and transparent conduct of NTA-administered exams.

A source said that the panel recommended exploring multi-stage testing for NEET-UG, which could involve evolving a framework with defined thresholds, test objectives, scoring mechanisms, and the number of attempts allowed. The committee also suggested strengthening security protocols for exam preparation and administration. Members include former AIIMS Delhi director Randeep Guleria, Hyderabad Central University Vice-Chancellor BJ Rao, IIT Madras Professor Emeritus K Ramamurthy, and IIT Kanpur academicians Amey Karkare and Debapriya Roy, among others.

Reforms and exam integrity

An official said, "NEET, along with other exams like UGC NET and CSIR-UGC-NET, has faced scrutiny over allegations of irregularities. Earlier this year, the ministry cancelled UGC-NET following reports of compromised integrity, while CSIR-UGC NET and NEET PG were also halted as precautionary measures. Both NEET and UGC NET are under investigation by the CBI."

NEET results are crucial for admissions to 1,08,000 MBBS seats across India, including approximately 56,000 seats in government medical colleges and 52,000 in private institutions. The exam also serves as the gateway for courses in dentistry, Ayurveda, Unani, and Siddha.

"The proposed reforms aim to enhance the robustness and transparency of the examination process, ensuring a fair platform for millions of aspiring medical students across the country," added the official.

NEET results are crucial for admissions to 1,08,000 MBBS seats across India, including approximately 56,000 seats in government medical colleges and 52,000 in private institutions

Career Utsav on Dec 21 & 22 at Palace Grounds

After Mysuru and Hubballi, Career Utsav 2024 will be held on December 21 and 22 at Palace Grounds, Gate No 9, Princess Shrine. The programme aims to provide students with guidance and information on education and career options.

According to organisers, the event will feature seminars by professionals, career advisors, and educators to help participants plan their future. An expo will showcase educational institutions, universities, and career specialists, giving attendees access to valuable resources.

Participants will also gain insights into career trends and evolving professions.

Attendees can have a free psychometric test to assess their strengths and receive a guidebook titled "Career After Plus 2" to help in decision-making. Mock tests for exams like JEE, NEET, and NID will be available. Snacks will also be provided during the event.

Hello Parents!

- Are you a parent of a student in CLASS 12 / II PUC?
- Are you CONFUSED and CONCERNED about his/her career?
- Do you have 3 HOURS THIS WEEKEND for his/her FUTURE?

If your answer is YES, then join us at

INDIA'S MOST AWAITED EDUCATIONAL EXTRAVAGANZA

CAREER Uttsav
Connecting you to your future

December 21st & 22nd, 2024
Timing - 9:00AM to 5:00PM
PRINCESS SHRINE
Palace Ground, Gate No. 9
Mekhri Circle, Bengaluru

Title Partner: QS I-GAUGE
Presenting Partner: RV UNIVERSITY
Co - Presenting Partners: BMS EDUCATIONAL TRUST, ICFAI UNIVERSITY

MEET NEW PEOPLE | LEARN NEW THINGS | MAKE RIGHT CHOICES

#why visit!

- Grab a FREE copy of the book "Careers After +2" (worth Rs 399/-)
- Get a detailed 30 page Report with a FREE Psychometric Test (worth Rs 3099/-)
- Seek Clarity at 15+ Career Seminars / Panel Discussion with Industry Experts
- Meet & Interact with 60+ Top Universities/ Institutions/ Colleges

Explore the DESIGN PAVILION (Powered By DQ Labs)
Design Aptitude Test | Mock NID/UCEED NIFT/NATA | Talent Hunt

#Exclusive Sessions

Do What You Love, Love What You Do
an inspiring talk with Chetan Bhagat
Indian Author, Ex-Banker, IIT-IIM Alumnus, "3 Idiots" Fame
21st Dec '24 - 9.30AM onwards

How To Score Well In Board Exams?
Attend this exclusive session with CA Sripal Jain, take home a personalized planner to stay on track on your path to success
22nd Dec '24 - 3.15PM onwards

SEMINARS AND PANEL DISCUSSIONS

Saturday 21st December 2024
12:00 PM to 1:00 PM | AUDI 2 | Healthcare & Medicine in 21st Century
12:00 PM to 1:15 PM | AUDI 1 | New Age Engineering Careers
1:15 PM to 2:15 PM | AUDI 2 | Lucrative Careers in Design
2:30 PM to 3:30 PM | AUDI 2 | Making a Successful Career in Law
3:00 PM to 4:15 PM | AUDI 1 | Global Careers in Commerce & Finance

Sunday 22nd December 2024
10:15 AM to 11:15 AM | AUDI 2 | How to build a true Entrepreneurship mindset?
10:30 AM to 11:45 AM | AUDI 1 | Past Present and Future of Engineering
11:30 AM to 12:30 PM | AUDI 2 | All About Overseas Education
12:15 PM to 1:30 PM | AUDI 1 | Trends in Management Education
12:50 PM to 1:50 PM | AUDI 2 | Architecture - A Promising Creative Career

SCAN TO REGISTER

FREE ENTRY
on pre-registration

University Partners: ALLIANCE UNIVERSITY, JAIN, REVA UNIVERSITY, RAMAIAH UNIVERSITY
Knowledge Partners: Azim Premji University, EIMR, FLAME UNIVERSITY, Kalvium, MANIPAL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE MALAYSIA, O.P. JINDAL GLOBAL UNIVERSITY, SCALER, VIDYASHILP UNIVERSITY
Mock Test Partner: ALLEN
Career Assessment Partner: Careerkaffe
Radio Partner: Fever FM
An initiative by: K2 LEARNING
In Association with: ies

www.careeruttsav.com

Hebbal land transfer 'still under process'

55-acre land transfer integral to BMRCL's plan to build multi-modal transport hub at Hebbal

Sridhar Vivan
sridhar.vivan@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @sridharvMirror

BMRCL workers testing the soil near Kanteerava studio ring road for the 3rd Phase of Metro rail (File photo)

The state government has clarified that the process of acquiring private property land for construction of Hebbal Metro station for the orange line is still under progress. The Large and Medium Industries Minister, MB Patil on Tuesday said that the government was aware of Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Limited's (BMRCL) request for 55 acres of Karnataka Industrial Area Development Board (KIADB) land in Hebbal and Hebbal Amanikere villages for the construction of the Orange Line Hebbal Metro Station, and the proposal is currently under review. The land transfer is integral to BMRCL's plan to build a modern multi-modal transport hub, multi-level car parking, a new depot, and other vital infrastructure at Hebbal, which will enhance the operational efficiency of Namma Metro.

Responding to a query in the Legislative Council, Patil said, "The 55.13-acre land was initially acquired by KIADB for the "Single Unit Complex Project" under a notification issued on May 11, 2004. Of this total, 51.08 acres, located in Hebbal and Hebbal Amanikere villages in Bengaluru North Taluk, have been earmarked for acquisition. In a board meeting on March 27, 2023, the land's value was fixed at Rs 12.10 crore per acre. On June 6, 2023, KIADB issued a notice to a private company, requesting payment of the specified amount. However, the payment has not yet been made. Once the payment is received, compensation will be provided to the landowners."

Patil further added that during the same board meeting in March 2023, the transfer of 6,712.97 square metres of land from Hebbal Survey No 75/2 and other survey numbers for the Metro project was also discussed. BMRCL has already paid Rs 20,11,62,500 to KIADB for this portion of the land. On August 28, 2024, funds were released to the Special Land Acquisition Officer-2 in Bengaluru, and compensation to the landowners is currently being processed. "Further updates will depend on the resolution of payment-related issues and the progress of the land acquisition process," he added.

> **"55.13-acre land was initially acquired by KIADB for the "Single Unit Complex Project" under a notification issued on May 11, 2004; 51.08 acres earmarked for acquisition** –MB Patil, Minister

The ongoing Phase 3 project will include the construction of depots, multi-level parking, and a multi-modal hub between the JP Nagar Phase 4 Metro station and Kempapura Cross. To facilitate this, KIADB has been instructed to transfer a portion of the 55-acre land to BMRCL, ensuring that compensation is paid to KIADB.

For public good: HC dismisses PIL against govt on Waqf case

The Karnataka High Court on Tuesday rejected a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) challenging a government circular that halted the mutation of farmers and private khata properties to the waqf board. The court stated that these directions were issued for public benefit.

The PIL, filed by Syed Ajaz Ahmed, sought to invalidate the state government's November 9 directive that withdrew notices for changing khata to waqf properties. The petition also requested the appointment of a retired Karnataka High Court judge to investigate waqf property encroachments by government bodies and private individuals.

A division bench comprising Chief Justice NV Anjaria and Justice KV Aravind stated that directions to stop khata creation for Waqf properties were in the public interest. The court maintained it could not examine such matters broadly, as they required case-by-case consideration.

The bench noted that the circular was issued following complaints from farmers and khata holders about their properties being converted to waqf. After a meeting, the Chief Minister ordered the suspension of the mutation process and withdrawal of related notices.

The petitioner argued that waqf properties required protection to prevent community losses. The court emphasised that the Waqf Act and its rules govern waqf property administration. It stated that specific property disputes should be addressed individually under these laws rather than through a PIL.

Advocate Rahamathulla Kothwal, representing the petitioner, highlighted that 91,953 acres of 1,12,000 acres of Waqf land faced encroachment. The petition referenced 2013 government proceedings about forming district-level task forces for waqf property identification. The petition sought fair compensation for acquired properties and requested measures to prevent waqf matters' politicisation in the media. It also asked for the identification and restoration of encroached waqf lands. Government advocates opposed the petition, questioning how the petitioner accessed the internal communication and suggesting political motivations. They argued the petitioner should have approached the Waqf board directly. — BMB

Protect Yourself from
PART TIME
JOB SCAM
JOB OFFER
Offers from unknown callers, social media ads, or groups promising easy money for simple tasks can
WIPE OUT YOUR BANK ACCOUNT
Verify online job offers thoroughly
Never share your personal or financial information
गृह मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
HOME AFFAIRS
Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre
Working Together With Vigour
Stop. Think. Take Action
File a complaint at
www.cybercrime.gov.in or call 1930
Follow CyberDost for tips
cbc 19101/13/0036/2425

MDMA haul worth ₹24 crore: Foreigner nabbed

KAUSHIK JN

African-origin woman in TC Palya is arrested for running drug racket through her shop, with CCB seizing 12 kg of MDMA worth ₹24 crore

Sanjana CS
c-sanjana.s@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Bengaluru's battle against a rapidly expanding drug trade reached a turning point with the recent seizure of ₹24 crore worth of MDMA crystals. The operation unveiled a network sourcing narcotics from cities like Mumbai, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, and Odisha, targeting students, professionals, and foreign nationals. These illicit operations buy drugs at low rates and sell them at inflated prices.

The upcoming New Year calls for dismantling the menace of drugs and celebrating the new year peacefully. The Anti-Narcotics Wing of the Bangalore City Crime Branch apprehended a foreign national woman and seized 12 kg of pure MDMA crystal worth ₹24 crore marking Karnataka's biggest drug bust to date, says B Dayananda Commissioner of Police.

CRIME FILES

Seizure of yellow and white MDMA crystal

A foreign woman residing in TC Palya for the past 5 years under KR Puram police station limits was arrested for allegedly running a drug racket by using her food and grocery shop as a front. The Central Crime Branch (CCB) Narcotics Squad seized 12 kg of MDMA crystal (yellow and white colour), valued at ₹24 crore, during a raid at her premises.

Acting on a tip-off, the squad raided the premises and arrested the woman. During interrogation, the accused, Roseline, 40-year-old, of African origin, confessed to sourcing MDMA crystals from Mumbai and selling them at inflated prices to college students, software professionals, and foreign nationals. She admitted her involvement in the illegal drug trade to earn quick money to live a fun life.

Officials also seized a mobile phone and 70 Airtel SIM cards from the accused, raising questions about the purpose of possessing such a large number of SIM cards. Another woman, suspected to be the supplier and based in Mumbai, evaded arrest, and efforts are underway to locate her. Officials revealed that the accused had entered India on a business visa but remained in the country even after its expiration. A case has been registered under the NDPS (Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances) Act and Foreigners Act at KR Puram police station. Investigations are ongoing to trace further connections within the drug network.

Yelahanka Police Station bust

Yelahanka Police arrested four individuals on November 29 for transporting 93 kg 170 grams of ganja in a truck and an Innova car. Acting on a tip-off, officers intercepted the vehicle that was stopped near the road leading to the Meenakshi College area and discovered the contraband. Along with the narcotics, valued at ₹74.53 lakh, four mobile phones were seized. Investigations reveal four other individuals involved in the operation are absconding.

Ashok Nagar Police Station action

On December 4, Ashok Nagar Police arrested four individuals near a Christian cemetery en route to Hosur. They seized 76 kg, 700 grams of ganja valued at ₹30.68 lakh, a Bolero pickup vehicle, and three mobile phones. Upon interrogation, it was revealed the gang procured the drugs from Tuni village near Visakhapatnam and intended to sell them at a higher price. The accused were remanded to judicial custody.

Banaswadi Police Station operation

In another operation, Banaswadi Police officials arrested three individuals on November 29, at a house in Kanakadasa Layout. The operation led to the seizure of 15 kg 120 grams of ganja valued at ₹15 lakh, along with three mobile phones.

Banaswadi police arrested 3 and seized 15 kg 120 grams of ganja valued at Rs 15 lakh

Amruthahalli Police Station arrests

Amruthahalli Police arrested two individuals on December 8, 2024, selling ganja in Chiranjeevi Layout. Seized from their possession were 5 kg 170 grams of ganja worth ₹1.5 lakh.

Bus fail: Overcrowded, erratic, infrequent

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

This essentially means if you miss that window, you're left waiting for the next 45 mins or so," said Akshay Balan, co-convenor of Collective Bangalore Unit. During the campaign, a significant number of students shared that they are forced to use private vehicles and auto rickshaw services on a regular basis to make it to campus on time, as they find buses in the city to have limited direct connectivity and irregular timings. Despite this, many students continue to use bus services as they are left with no other affordable options.

Building a better public transport system will ease the commute stress and reduce the disparity in experience among all students, they said.

Infrequent late night buses

The group highlighted that several colleges in the city have introduced new evening shift batches. Infrequency of late night buses particularly affects these students as their classes end exactly during the peak traffic hours. Missing the bus results in long waiting periods and many students reported reaching home only by 10-11pm. Lack of last mile connectivity from the bus stop to their homes is an additional challenge, with many having to rely on their family members among others to be picked up and dropped from bus stations.

Shalom, who was part of conducting the campaign, noted that the push for expensive projects such as the tunnel roads is unsustainable in the long term as the design is car-oriented and is bound to increase traffic. "These funds must instead be invested into our public transportation systems – optimising routes and increasing the frequency of buses by increasing the size of BMTC's fleet. First and last mile connectivity is also an issue and must be looked into simultaneously by implementing walkable footpaths and adequate lighting, in order to ensure public transport becomes a preferable option for students," she said.

Questions remain as forest dwellers' relocation begins

Garima Prasher
garima.prasher
@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Karnataka Forest Department (KFD) has started phased relocation of forest dwellers from a hamlet in Bhimgad Wildlife Sanctuary (BWS). In its first phase, 56 eligible families have been randomly selected to be relocated and rehabilitated. According to KFD officials, the rehabilitation process has just started in Talewadi village of BWS.

"This year's target is to cater to one hamlet within Bhimgad Wildlife Sanctuary. We have received applications from Talewadi village for relocation under cash option," said Maria Christu Raja D, Belagavi Deputy Conservator of Forests.

However, locals have expressed concerns over the process.

The proposal to rehabilitate villagers in 13 hamlets inside or at the fringe of BWS has been pending for a decade. Currently, there are 754 families and 3,059 people living in these 13 settlements.

"Out of 13 villages in Bhimgad, 7 are interior and 6 are fringe villages. Those living in the interior villages lose connectivity during rainy season. Their crops are damaged by wildlife, cattle are killed, villagers get injured or killed. Talewadi, one of the interior villages, hardly has nearly 20 houses with a population of around 100. It would have been better if the entire village was relocated," said an expert.

Villagers say in the case of a hamlet with a small number of families, relocation should not have been done in a phased manner.

"We are living in a difficult situation, with no infrastructure. For such a small hamlet, if relocation and rehabilitation are happening in multiple phases, we are worried about the timeline for the rest of the villagers and settlements," said a villager.

However, officials say the ongoing process is a pilot. Once the community can see the process and its efficacy, the next phase of activity involving other hamlets will start. The ongoing relocation is taking place with a payment of Rs 15 lakh to each family. Although villagers say they would have preferred the option of agricultural land.

Experts say if the department is short of revenue land, there is the option of diverting degraded reserve forest land for this purpose. In the present package, under 18 children are not given any compensation.

Also, a proposal to provide job reservations to them in the form of Project Displaced Person is not yet cleared by the Government," said Giridhar Kulkarni, a wildlife conservationist.

Footpath take-over: Pedestrians out, rider in

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and infrastructure expert, explains that according to The Indian Road Congress (IRC) guidelines specify a minimum width requirements for footpaths based on the surrounding area.

In residential zones, footpaths should be 3.3 metre wide, incorporating a 0.5-metre frontage zone, a 1.8-metre pedestrian zone, and a 1-metre furniture zone.

For commercial areas, the minimum width is 5 metre, while high-intensity commercial zones require 6.5 metre. The IRC also mandates that the kerb height above the carriageway should not exceed 150 millimetre, and footpaths must have a flat surface to facilitate proper drainage and prevent water accumulation.

Additionally, the IRC provides guidelines for inclusive pedestrian facilities, considering the needs of people with disabilities.

However, Bengaluru's roads are often too narrow to meet these standards. Even when footpaths are present, they are rarely flat or well-maintained. Many have broken tiles, and in some cases, two-wheelers encroach on footpaths, leaving no safe space for pedestrians. The lack of discipline and maintenance compromises pedestrian safety. Furthermore, as traffic inflow and outflow continue to increase, roads are being widened at the expense of shrinking footpaths, exacerbating the issue, Sreehari adds.

South DCP (Traffic) Shiva Prakash Devaraju explained that people often offer excuses like emergencies, being late for work, or heading to another place, but these are unjustifiable. "Even if the road is narrow, riding on it remains a clear violation," he said.

Driver psychology and mentality play a significant role in traffic violations. "Despite red signals, many riders opt to use footpaths, particularly near junctions or signals. While the police are taking strict action, limited manpower poses a challenge.

Cameras are now being installed to read number plates and monitor violations, but human intervention is still needed to track offenders, note the time and place of the violation, and book cases. Although data is available, the lack of manpower to analyse camera footage remains an issue," said Sreehari.

He emphasised on the importance of discipline among people. "In India, there's a tendency to disregard rules, some even find a sense of pride in breaking them. For instance, some feel like a hero for crossing multiple signals on red or escaping after hitting someone. This mindset must change for the sake of safety.

Two-wheeler riders, in particular, need to show consideration for others on the road, which is currently lacking. People's seriousness about traffic discipline and safety is vital for meaningful change," he said.

Devaraju cautioned that riding on footpaths is a dangerous activity, citing numerous accidents caused by it. "It poses risks to both pedestrians and riders. Strict action will be taken against those who engage in this behavior, and fines will be imposed," he warned.

Your Connect

jobs

ADMINISTRATION

SENIOR / TOP MANAGERS

10 Retired/VRS from Govt/Private are Required for Top MNC's Managerial Positions. Interview Contact: 91483 88585

SITUATION VACANT

ACADEMIC

TEACHER

|| Om Sai Ram ||
FEDERAL PUBLIC SCHOOL
(Affiliated to CISCE, New Delhi)
Thanisandra Main Rd, B'lore - 64
Urgently Required
Experienced & Qualified
- Kindergarten (NTT/ Montessori)
- Primary (PRT's)
- High School (PGT's)
- Front Desk

- Passionate, Sincere & Student Friendly
- Excellent Communication Skill
- Minimum Experience of 3 - Years in Reputed Schools
- Basic Computer Knowledge

(Female Candidates Only)
Send your Resume to
federalschool@gmail.com
9008581599, 8971515714

ACCOUNTS

ACCOUNTANT

WANTED Managers & Accounts Assistant having 4 - 5 yrs Experience for a Reputed Chain of Non- Veg Restaurants in bangalore Call : 98806 60665

THE TIMES GROUP
Readers are recommended to make appropriate enquires and seek appropriate advice before sending money, incurring any expenses, acting on medical recommendations or entering into any commitment in relation to any advertisement published in this publication. The Times Of India Group doesn't vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers of products and services. The Printer, Publisher, Editor and Owners of The Times Of India Group publications shall not be held liable for any consequences, in the event such claims are not honoured by the Advertisers.

real estate

OUTSIDE BANGALORE

MANGALORE

Sites FOR SALE- MANGALORE KAVOOR MALLI LAYOUT 15 cents 10.25/ Cent , Hosabettu near Nilgiris 15 cents 8.30/ Cent. Call: 70222-66660

tender & notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that, Plot.No.1A, Industrial Area, Veerasandra Industrial Area was allotted by the KIADB, in favour of **M/s. Sage Enterprises.** One **Mr. Mahesh Reddy** seems that he is claiming that he is the owner of the property by giving wrong description / number / boundaries as Kanishmari.No.61 & 62A of Veerasandra Village. The matter between M/s.Sage Enterprises and KIADB WP.No.55481/2017 and writ petition filed by Mahesh Reddy in WP.No.14732/2022 are pending before the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka for judgment. It is given to understand that the said Mahesh Reddy is trying to enter into agreements/ lease/mortgage with different person/s, that any one enters to such deed/s the same is at their risk and consequences.

Sd/-
Sage Enterprises
Salem & Bangalore

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Shobha Jayaramaiah W/O Jayaramaiah.G R/O No 46,Yantaganahalli,Nelamangala Taluk,B'luru 562123 have changed my name to Shobha Mutharayappa for all purposes

I, Nagaraj Dyava Gouda S/o Dyava Gowda R/o #174, Itagi Grama At Post Kodtagani,Siddapura,Uttara Kannada 581322 have changed my name to Nagaraj Dyava Gowda for all purposes.

I, Vaishnavai Devi.S D/o Shivakumar M.C R/a No. 21/1, 1st Cross, Lakkasandra, Bangalore-30. Have Changed To DIYAA VAISHNAVI.S. Vide Afft Dt: 17.12.2024. Sworn Before Notary: Devaraju. E.

I, Sageena Sandeep W/o. Sandeep Sukumar R/o #1037/4, Muniswamappa Layout, Amc Main Road, Kaval Byrasandra, R.t.nagar, B'lore-560032 have changed my name to Sageena Manappatty for all purposes

I, Supriya Venkatesha Murthy W/o Ravikumar.P R/o G 11, Sunrise Serenity,Sweet Home Layout Rd,Mylasandra,Kengeri B'luru 560060 have changed my name to Supriya Ravikumar Penjuri for all purposes

I, Deepu Syam Sreedhar M R/o Flat No. 204, Sri Balaji Paradise, 12th Cross, Abbaiah Reddy Layout, Kaggadasapura, C.V. Raman Nagar Post, Bengaluru, Karnataka – 560093, have changed my minor daughter's name from BHADRA to BHADRA D SREEDHAR for all purposes.

I Mohammed Iqlas Khan S/O. Sawood Ahmed Khan R/o No 20/5 1st Floor 5th Cross 1st Main Chinnappa Garden Bengaluru have changed my name to Mohammed Iqlas Khan Sawood.

I, Kiran Hegde R/o No.10, Kanalli, Hegadekatta, Sirsi Tq, Uttara Kannada 581403 Present camp Bengaluru have changed my name to Kiran Kamalakara Hegde Affidavit Dt.17/12/2024 notary Harisha G, B'luru

LOST & FOUND

NAUZAD jimmy irani b Pinto mantion , loya Rd, Igatpuri po,nashik maharashtra 422403 Do here by inform to the general public that on 11/12/2024..while I was waiting for airport bus near HSR BDA complex have lost documents Tamilnadu, Krishnagiri district,Echanguru village related Flat Number 306, VGP Rose Garden 2 Original document number 3172/1992. Lost Report Number PO1382424/2024 (HSR PS) If anybody finds the above said documents or us possession, please handover the same to the above said address or to the nearest police station or Contact 9550386220

I, Sweta W/o Sri. Shankar U, Resident of No.28, Renuka Yellamma Nilaya, 1st Main Road, 10th Cross, N.G.E.F. Layout, Ullala Main Road, Nagarabhavi, 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560056 hereby inform that the original sale deed of the property bearing Bengaluru Dakshina Taluk, Uttarahalli Hobli, Talaghattapur Village, Khatha No. 86/1, Property No: 3. Sale Deed Document No. / Identification: 5768/1965-66, 1st Book No 577, Page No 159-162, REG No: BNG(U)-KNGR/29098/2006-2007 C.D. No. @ KEND 346 Cost Dated 10/11/2006 Registered at the Sub Registrar Office, Bengaluru has been lost while travelling by Bus from Kengeri to Jnanajyothi Nagar on 28.11.2024 and anyone finding the same may kindly return it. Phone No: 9008231108.

GALLERIA
SRI KANCHIPURAM RESHME CENTRE
10 Days only
SPOT CASH
We Buy Old (Damaged) Silk Sarees, Silk Dhothies, Silver Jarigai,
Tissue Sarees, Banaras, Mysore Silk at any Condition, Stone Articles (Best Pricewith Jaree, At any conditions.
SPOT CASH 18-12-2024 - 29-12-2024
SRI KANCHIPURAM RESHME CENTRE
No.58, Krishna Building, Sampige Road, 5th Cross, Near Malleswaram Bridge, Bangalore.
Call: 9632781499

HEALTH TIP: Ginger is known for its anti-inflammatory and immune-boosting properties

A warm chamomile tea during night relaxes the mind and help to reduce the anxiety

BangaloreMirror | 9
Wednesday, December 18, 2024
mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com
facebook.com/thebangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

All you need to know about...

Power of breath

Helps consolidate memory
Breathing could be the "driver" that helps coordinate brain processes involved in consolidating memory during sleep -- similar to how a conductor coordinates various instruments in an orchestra to produce a symphony, a new study has found.

While you were sleeping
During sleep, the brain integrates or "consolidates" new information learned throughout the day with prior knowledge, storing it for long-term use.

Brain waves
According to the study published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, breathing rhythms during sleep are linked to "slow spindles" brain waves in the hippocampus-- an area of the brain responsible for memory and learning. These brain waves occur during the non-rapid eye movement (NREM) phase of sleep. While slow spindles have previously been shown to play a role in memory, the underlying driver of this process was unknown, said researchers at Northwestern University in the US.

These findings have important implications for conditions like sleep apnea, which disrupt breathing during sleep and are associated with poor memory consolidation, the researchers added. "To strengthen memories, three special neural oscillations emerge and synchronise in the hippocampus during sleep, but they were thought to occur at random times," said study senior author Christina Zelano, a professor of neurology at Northwestern University. "We discovered that these oscillations are coordinated by breathing rhythms," she said. The team analysed activity in the hippocampus of six patients with epilepsy during nights that were entirely free of seizures.

They found that slow spindle activity in the hippocampus occurred at specific points in the breathing cycle, suggesting that breathing is a critical rhythm for proper memory consolidation during sleep.

—PTI

SEASON'S CHOICEST SLICE

The magnificent history of maligned and misunderstood fruitcake

Nothing says Christmas quite like a fruitcake – or, at the very least, a fruitcake joke.

A quip attributed to former "Tonight Show" host Johnny Carson has it that "There is only one fruitcake in the entire world, and people keep sending it to each other."

It's certainly earned its reputation for longevity.

Two friends from New York have been exchanging the same fruitcake since the late 1950s. Even older is the fruitcake left behind in Antarctica by the explorer Robert Falcon Scott in 1910. But the honor for the oldest known existing fruitcake goes to one that was baked in 1878 when Rutherford B Hayes was president of the United States.

What's amazing about these old fruitcakes is that people have tasted them and lived, meaning they are still edible after all these years. The trifecta of sugar, low moisture ingredients and some high-proof spirits make fruitcakes some of the longest-lasting foods in the world.

The original energy bar

Fruitcake is an ancient goody, with the oldest versions a sort of energy bar made by the Romans to sustain their soldiers in battle. The Roman fruitcake was a mash of barley, honey, wine and dried fruit, often pomegranate seeds.

What you might recognise as a modern-style fruitcake – a moist, leavened dessert studded with fruits and nuts – was probably first baked in the early Middle Ages in Europe. Cinnamon, cloves and nutmeg were symbols of culinary sophistication, and these sweet spices started appearing alongside fruit in many savory dishes – especially breads, but also main courses.

Before long, most cuisines had some sort of fruited breads or cakes that were early versions of the modern fruitcake.

Fruitcakes are different in Europe than they are in America. European fruitcakes are more like the medieval fruited bread than the versions made in Great Britain and the United States. The two most common styles of fruitcake in Europe are the stollen and panettone.

British and American versions are much more cakelike. For over-the-top extravagance, honors have to go to a British version that crowns a rich fruitcake with a layer of marzipan icing.

Sweetening the pot

Fruitcakes came to America with the European colonists, and the rising tide of emigration from Britain to New England closely mirrored an influx of cheap sugar from the Caribbean.

Sugar was the key to preserving fruit for use across the seasons. One of the favorite methods of preserving fruit was to "candy" it. Candied fruit – sometimes known as crystallized fruit – is fruit that's been cut into small pieces, boiled in sugar syrup, tossed in granulated sugar and allowed to dry.

Thanks to this technique, colonists were able to keep fruit from the summer harvest to use in their Christmas confections, and fruitcakes became one of the most popular seasonal desserts.

A dessert with staying power

Fruitcakes were also popular due to their legendary shelf life, which, in an era before mechanical refrigeration, was extremely desirable.

Fruitcake aficionados will tell you that the best fruit cakes are matured – or "seasoned" in fruitcake lingo – for at least three months before they are cut. Seasoning not only improves the flavor of the fruitcake, but it makes it easier to slice.

Seasoning a fruitcake involves brushing your fruitcake periodically with your preferred distilled spirit before wrapping it tightly and letting it sit in a cool, dark place for up to two months. The traditional spirit of choice is brandy, but rum is also popular. In the American South, where fruitcake is extremely popular, bourbon is preferred. A well-seasoned fruitcake will get several spirit baths over the maturation period.

Credit for the fruitcake's popularity in America should at least partially go to the U.S. Post Office.

The institution of Rural Free Delivery in 1896 and the addition of the Parcel Post service in 1913 caused an explosion of mail-order foods in America. Overnight, once rare delicacies were a mere mail-order envelope away for people anywhere who could afford them.

Given fruitcake's long shelf life and dense texture, it was a natural for a mail-order food business. America's two most famous fruitcake companies, Claxton's of Claxton, Georgia, and Collin Street of Corsicana, Texas, got their start in this heyday of mail-order food. By the early 1900s, U.S. mailrooms were full of the now ubiquitous fruitcake tins.

As late as the 1950s, fruitcakes were a widely esteemed part of the American holiday tradition. A 1953 Los Angeles Times article called fruitcake a "holiday must," and in 1958, the Christian Science Monitor asked, "What Could Be a Better Gift Than Fruitcake?" But by 1989, a survey by Mastercard found that fruitcake was the least favorite gift of 75% of those polled.

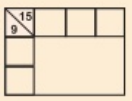
Haters and disrespect aside, fruitcake is still a robust American tradition: The website Serious Eats reports that over 2 million fruitcakes are still sold each year.

(Jeffrey Miller, Colorado State University, The Conversation)

mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com
facebook.com/theBangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

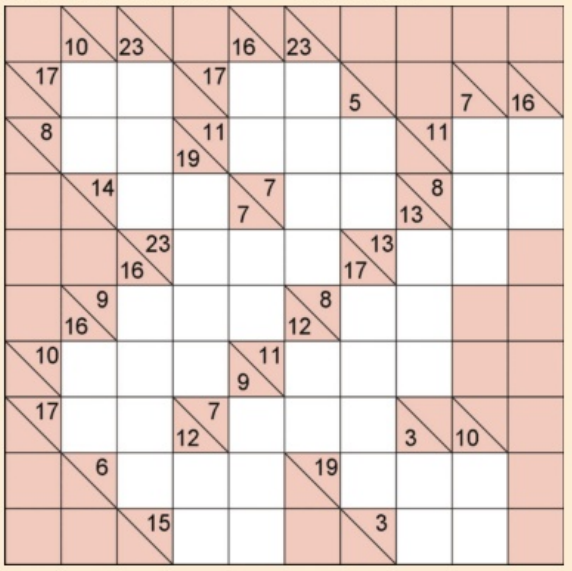
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

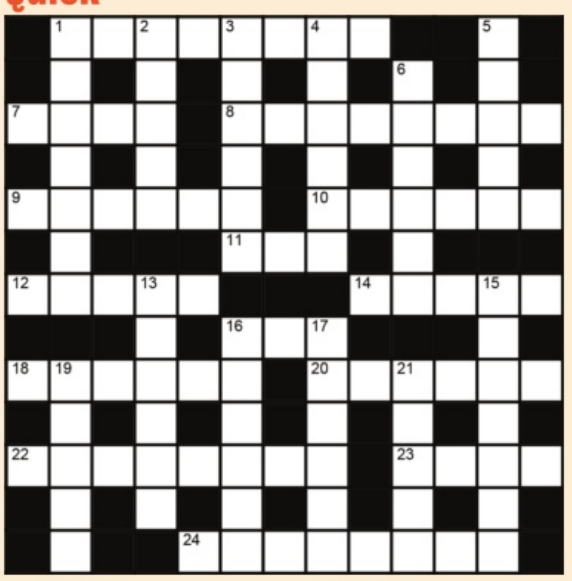


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Overly concerned with (8)
7 Famous educational institution on Bannerghatta road (3-1)
8 Sound of constant pitch (8)
9 High structures; minars (6)
10 Prize (6)
11 Greek capital for TWA (3)
12 Collectively (2,3)
14 Distributed (5)
16 Hefty sandwich (3)
18 Obedient employees (3-3)
20 Expelled or evicted (6)
22 Unequalled, unique or unmatched (8)
23 Least amount (4)
24 Surrounded (8)

DOWN

1 Portending evil (7)
2 A valuable fur (5)
3 Indian snack (6)
4 India and Mumbai's ___ Solkar (6)
5 An American farm (5)
6 Idle, empty (6)
13 Deceased (2,4)
15 Put up (7)
16 Cold symptom? (6)
17 Japanese plant growing art (6)
19 Rival (5)
21 Taking to court (5)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: X EQUALS G

JWEUYUTX ZA J WLJBB DM-WUTFWW ZRJZ CAFW HRJZ UZ CAFW SFYG HFBB UW J TADBF EMYWMUZ.

Linemaro

Me without you is like Facebook without friends, YouTube without videos, Google with no results

Mindchow

Happiness can be found in the darkest of times if one remembers to turn on the light

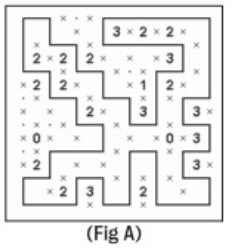
Joke of the day

The problem with trouble shooting is that trouble shoots back

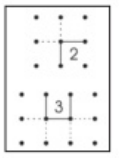
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)



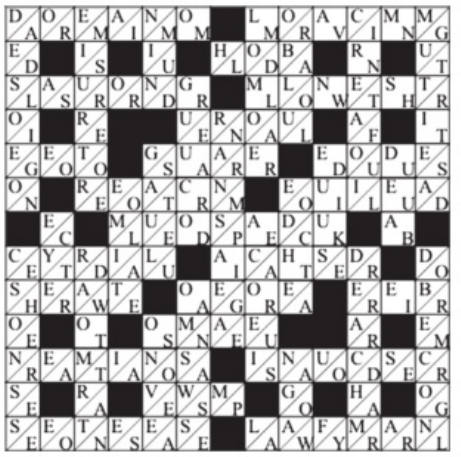
(Fig B) Not Allowed

How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

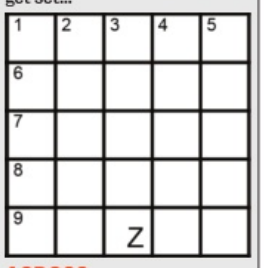
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

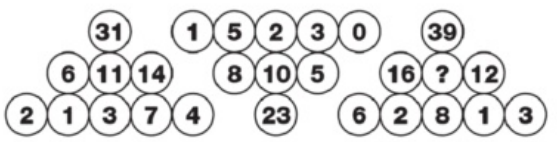
1 Trine; 6 Ana so; 7 Kit up; 8 A tale; 9 AR Zal

DOWN

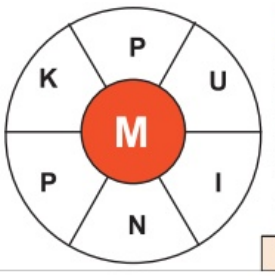
1 At LAN; 2 Ulna I; 3 Zap to; 4 Tiara; 5 Reeks

Mensapuzzle

Which number replaces the question mark on the third triangle?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

01 Average; 02 Good; 03 Outstanding

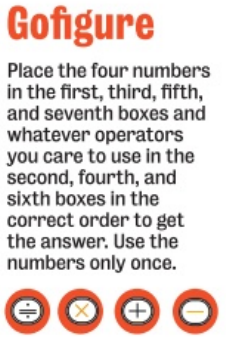
SudokuChallenge

	7	1			4		3	
		4		9				
8							9	
	6	2		7	9	1	5	
	4	9	5	3		7	6	
	8							4
				5		9		
	9		3			2	8	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Easy = 4

3 5 6 6

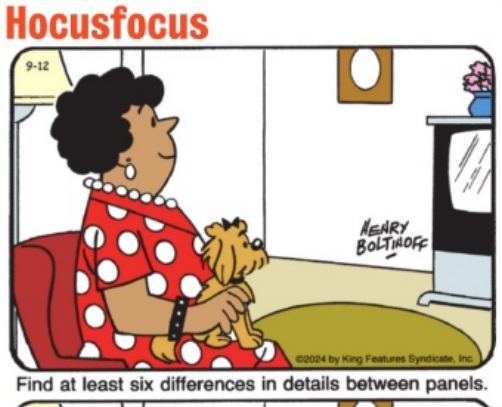
Medium = 16

5 6 7 9

Hard = 42

4 6 8 5

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

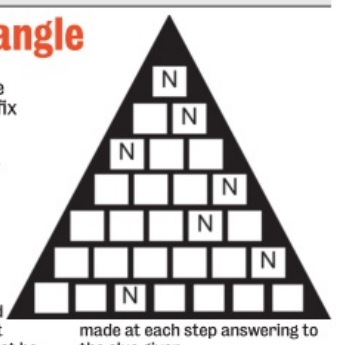
Differences: 1. Rug is smaller. 2. Arm of chair is not showing. 3. Necklace is smaller. 4. Bow is larger. 5. TV screen is lower. 6. Hair is different.

Riddler

You hear my sound; But that's not me In fact, we look quite differently I can have one; it always has two; I can have three It can be anywhere, but I like sitting in a tree It comes in many different forms But I usually come in one I have an assortment of colours But eat me & I'm done It can represent a bond I can be used to jam Can you figure out What it is & what I am?

Alpha triangle

1 One of the poles
2 Printer's measure
3 Maiden name prefix
4 Eyed
5 Public argument
6 Electronic display
7 Harsh reprimand

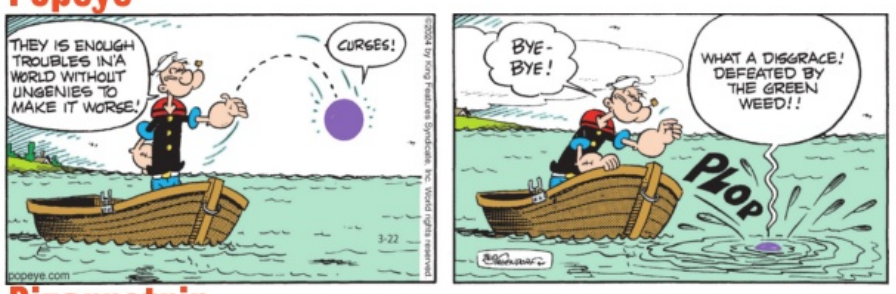


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Popeye



Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

Crankshaft

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you are blessed by a positive moon. You may feel healthy, and old health issues might be cured now. Money that was stuck somewhere may likely be recovered. You might also apply for a loan to purchase luxury items.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you are blessed by Jupiter, which may boost your confidence. You are likely to make important decisions confidently. Being decisive, you may seize opportunities without hesitation. You might spend money on family and friends. Lovebirds may enjoy happy moments, and job aspirants are likely to find a suitable job with the help of friends.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may feel dull and unable to enjoy your day. You might become a victim of arrogance, which could affect both your professional and domestic life. Internally, you may feel a lack of confidence, stopping you from doing something creative at work.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may feel energetic and perform efficiently at work. Your hard work might start paying off, boosting your confidence. Property-related disputes with siblings are likely to be resolved. A meeting with an influential person may strengthen your network.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you are blessed by the moon, which brings happiness. You are likely to secure a big order due to your excellent communication skills. Politeness with those around you may work in your favor. You might make some difficult decisions in business with the support of your colleagues.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you are blessed by the moon, making it a good day for you. You may feel energetic and enjoy your work. Romantic moments with your spouse could improve domestic harmony. You might plan new projects, and your perfectionism may help you design effective plans. Job seekers may find suitable opportunities. Lovebirds are advised to avoid discussions on trivial matters.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you might feel disappointed. It is advised to control your arrogance, as it could lead to losses in your interactions. Lovebirds should tread carefully in discussions to avoid straining their relationships.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may feel at peace. You might plan to invest capital in your business, increasing liquidity. Improved earnings may boost your financial health. Romantic moments with your spouse could enhance family harmony. Singles are likely to find a suitable match, and lovebirds may decide to marry. Students are likely to be blessed with positive outcomes due to their good karma.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you may feel very happy as your losses convert into profits. Your seniors might appreciate your work. Changes in your role, position, or responsibilities at work are likely, possibly through promotions. Opponents and hidden enemies may now be under control. Singles and lovebirds may take significant steps toward marriage with the support of relatives or friends.

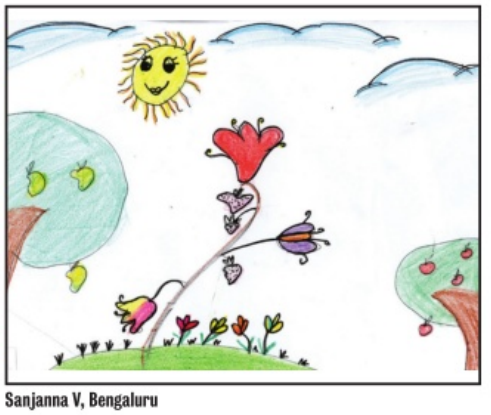
Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, situations may feel under control, and you might feel better. Plans for overseas travel could take shape. Your network may assist you professionally. Domestic harmony may improve. Creativity may flourish, leading you to buy artifacts or decorative items for your home or office. You might plan a movie or other entertainment with family and friends.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
At the start of the week, you might expect financial gains. Balancing your earnings and expenses could improve your bank balance. You are likely to perform better in your job, and your boss might assign you new responsibilities, possibly leading to a promotion. Recovering money from lenders and gaining control over opponents and hidden enemies is likely. Your health may improve.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you may plan to renovate your house. Purchasing items to decorate your home could help maintain your social status. Harmony with your spouse is likely, which may bring peace to domestic life. Disputes with friends, coworkers, or partners might be resolved. Positive news regarding legal matters could come your way.

KIDZONE

Skanda G, Bengaluru



Sanjanna V, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
2/2 + 8/4 + 1/16 =
1 + 2 ÷ 1/16 =
1 + 2 x 16/1 =
1 + 32/1 =
1 + 32 = 33

RIDDLER Pear & Pair

QUOTE UNCODE
Aspiring to a small business that does what it does very well is a noble pursuit.

FAST FIVE

N	I	T	R	E
A	N	O	A	S
T	U	P	I	K
A	L	A	T	E
L	A	Z	A	R

BULL'S EYE
mink, pump, PUMPKIN

STRIKE OUT

S	E	N	S	E	S	■	L	A	Y	M	A	N
E	■	A	■	E	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
N	R	E	A	R	M	O	I	L	E	D	■	■
G	O	O	■	S	A	A	R	■	D	U	D	E
I	R	■	U	R	A	L	■	F	■	T	■	■
S	A	R	O	N	G	■	L	O	W	E	S	T
E	■	I	■	U	■	H	O	B	R	■	U	■
D	O	M	I	N	O	■	M	O	V	I	N	G

QUICK

■	■	■	B	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Y
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

MENSA PUZZLE
11. In each triangular group of circles, start with the longest row and add together 3 adjacent values and put this sum in the circle directly above or below the centre of the 3 values. Continue this sequence towards the apex of each triangle.

SUDOKU

9	7	1	2	8	4	6	3	5
6	3	4	7	9	5	8	2	1
8	2	5	6	1	3	4	9	7
3	6	2	4	7	9	1	5	8
7	5	8	1	2	6	3	4	9
1	4	9	5	3	8	7	6	2
2	8	3	9	6	7	5	1	4
4	1	6	8	5	2	9	7	3
5	9	7	3	4	1	2	8	6

ALPHA TRIANGLE
N, En, Nee, Seen, Scene, Screen, Censure.

GO FIGURE
Easy
6 – 5 + 6 – 3 = 4
Medium
9 – 7 x 5 + 6 = 16
Hard
8 + 4 – 5 x 6 = 42

LOOP

KAKURO

3	9	6			9	1	2	
2	3	1		9	2	8		
9	8	7	2	4	1	3		
7	1	2	9	8	2	1		
	5	3	1	8	5	3		
	8	6	9	7	9	4		
8	6	7	5	2	1	3	2	9
2	9	8		7	3	1	2	7

Volume No 17, Issue No 252 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/21142 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by R.J. Prakashan at No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011 and printed by him at Bennett Coleman & Co Ltd., The Times of India Press, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, KIADB Bommasandra Industrial Area, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore - 560 099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Fax – 40877545, Registered Office: No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru - 560 011, Email : mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon - responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

Ready for an adventure?

Director Chandra Mohan, who has helmed the movies Bombay Mittai, Bramhachari, and Double Engine, has been busy with preparations for the release of his latest movie Forest, an adventurous thriller. The movie is scheduled to arrive in theaters on January 24. It is bankrolled by NM Kantharaj under the NMK Cinemas banner.

"Forest is my fourth movie as a director. I discussed the concept of Forest with producer Kantharaj over a cup of coffee. It was a casual discussion. Producer Kantharaj wanted to bankroll another Kannada movie but he changed his decision and insisted and encouraged me to work on the script of Forest," said director Chandra Mohan.

Stating that it was a big challenge to ensure equal screen space for four actors who have already established themselves in Sandalwood, Chandra Mohan said he worked on the script for six months. "I narrated the script to each of the actors to make it easy for them. I am grateful to actors Gurunandan, Anish Tejeshwar, Chikkanna, and Rangayana Raghu for their cooperation. We planned to wrap up shooting in 30 to 35 days but it took us 50 days to complete the shooting. All the actors cooperated with us and participated in the shooting," the director said.

The movie has two heroines – Sharanya Shetty and Archana Kottige. "A major portion of the shooting was held in the forest and that too at night," the director said.

The movie was shot in Madikeri, MM Hills, Sampaje Forest, and Bengaluru. —BMB

Kind, but firm

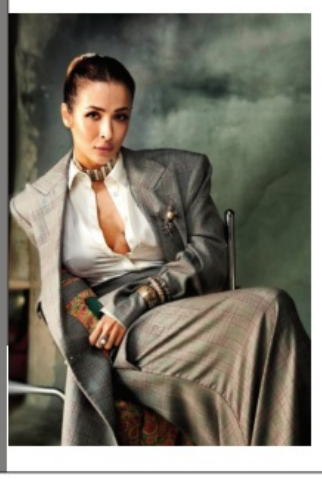
Ananya praises co-star DP for helping her stand up for herself

Ananya Panday praised Deepika Padukone, her co-star in 'Gehraiyaan', for her kindness and support on set. Ananya shared that when she first entered Bollywood, she didn't know how to stand up for herself. Deepika's actions showed her the importance of being politely assertive and setting boundaries.

At Prime Video's O Womaniya! In the 2024 roundtable, Ananya shared her experience in the industry, revealing that she initially didn't realize one could stand up for themselves. She praised Deepika for her polite assertiveness on set, noting how Deepika stands up for everyone. Ananya learned the importance of setting boundaries through Deepika's example, especially in an environment where women are often labeled as "bossy" for speaking up.

Panday shared that working with Deepika was a turning point for her. She revealed that when she began her career, she didn't realize she could assert herself. Deepika's ability to stand up for everyone on set inspired Ananya to speak up when uncomfortable and be more conscious of her choices. She aims to ensure young girls aren't negatively portrayed on-screen, reflecting her growth and newfound assertiveness in the industry.

'Gehraiyaan', directed by Shakun Batra, was released on February 11, 2022. The film features a star-studded cast including Deepika Padukone, Siddhant Chaturvedi, Ananya Panday, and Dhairya Karwa. It explores complex modern relationships and the intricacies of human emotions. —ETimes



Malaika 'channels her inner SRK'

Malaika Arora recently channelled her inner Shah Rukh Khan as she recreated an unforgettable and iconic train scene from the film "Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge."

On Tuesday, the fashionista posted a video of her where she is seen recreating the popular scene with her team. Sharing the clip on her Instagram handle, Malaika wrote in the caption, "Channeling my inner SRK, but this time instead of chaiyya chaiyya on top of the train,it's more like 'Grab my hand and get IN the train!' Recreating the DDLJ magic, one dramatic hand pull at a time, with my team holding on for dear life! @railminindia PART 2 of my train journey ....#DDLJFeels #SRKVibes #TrainDrama." Arora, dressed in a white tracksuit, can be seen helping her teammates board the train.

Shah Rukh Khan and Kajol's iconic "ja Simran ja" scene from "Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge" continues to be one of Bollywood's most unforgettable moments. As Amrish Puri delivers the iconic line, "Ja Simran ja, jee le apni zindagi," Kajol runs towards Shah Rukh Khan, who is on board a train with his hands stretched towards her. In addition to Shah Rukh and Kajol, "DDLJ" also featured a range of talented actors. — IANS

Busting beauty standards, stereotypes

Actress Florence Pugh recently discussed the challenges of being a woman in Hollywood, expressing how exhausting it can be to constantly navigate industry expectations and beauty standards.

According to The Hollywood Reporter, the star of 'We Live in Time' spoke out about her decision to go against the grain and defy stereotypes imposed on women, in a recent interview.

"I'm not nasty -- I hope people think I'm kind. But there are fine lines women have to stay within,

otherwise they are called a diva, demanding, problematic," Pugh shared, adding, "And I don't want to fit into stereotypes made by others. It is really exhausting for a young woman to just be in this industry, and actually other industries. But I've always been encouraged to have a voice," as per The Hollywood Reporter,

Having been in the industry for a decade, Pugh reflected on the early years of her career and the way women in Hollywood are often ridiculed for their appearance.

She recalled how, early on, headlines about fellow actress Keira Knightley would often focus on her physical appearance, diminishing her accomplishments. — ANI

Memories of school

Actor Vedang Raina, who was recently seen in the film 'Jigra', recollected an interesting anecdote about his school life. He said that during his tenure in the student council, he once escorted Bollywood star Alia Bhatt, with whom he shared the screen in 'Jigra', in a school function.

The actor visited his alma mater in the Vile Parle area of Mumbai as the chief guest on the occasion of its annual sports day on Tuesday, and was visibly nostalgic as he walked through the familiar corridors of his school in Mumbai.

During the school function, Vedang Raina expressed gratitude towards reliving the school memories.

Sharing the anecdote, the actor told IANS, "I can't put it into words about how incredible I feel coming back to my school. I've spent some of the most beautiful years here, and have created memories that I will cherish throughout my life. One of my many fond memories is that, during my initial school days I was in the student council, a dream that many students think about, even I did".

He further mentioned, "That time I had the pleasure of escorting Alia Bhatt, who was the chief guest that year." —IANS